

**GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5**  
**SCHOOL BOARD Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting**  
**MINUTES OF February 7, 2024**

The Personnel and Finance Committee of the Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met as a committee on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. in the GCMS Board Room located at 307 N Sangamon Avenue, Gibson City. The committee was called to order by Superintendent Jeremy Darnell, roll was called with board members Johnson, Whitehouse and Friday in attendance. Also present were district Superintendent Jeremy Darnell, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction Erin Nuss, and Secretary to the Board Lori Kristensen.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all present.

Recognition of Visitors:

None

A motion to begin the meeting was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Friday at 11:30 a.m. Motion carried by roll call with all board members present voting yes.

Additional Agenda Items: None

**Discussion Items:**

Mid-Year Finance Review

Darnell reported that the district is waiting on three million dollars to still come in before the end of the fiscal year. The fund balance should end the year with \$12-\$13 million.

Expenditure totals are approximately 58.26% of the annual budget. A large expense this fiscal year is the new press box and black top walkway & parking lot which combined total approximately \$700,000.

FY24 Levy - State Multiplier

With the FY24 Levy in place for next year, Darnell reported an estimated \$1.1 million in revenue for the next year if the numbers come in as expected. The whole tax rate could be at 5.15%. Darnell reported that the Ford County Assessor has assessed properties in Drummer and Dix Townships and they could see a 7% increase in property taxes.

2024-2025 Staffing

Director of Student Services: This new position is being created for the 2024-2025 school year and the job description continues to be refined. The new position will be a 12-month contract and requires the candidates to have a Masters in Educational Leadership. There are five applicants for this new position and interviews will be held at the district office on February 12.

Custodial: Darnell shared with the board that a new position has been created for a 2nd shift supervisor. There is one internal candidate who will interview for the position on February 7.

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Open Positions for the 2024/2025 School Year:

- Spanish - There have been no applicants, therefore the online posting of this open position will be removed. Most likely there will be a certified teacher to supervise the classroom and manage student expectations.
- HS English - There are five applicants for this open position and they will be interviewed on Wednesday, February 21.
- MS Social Studies - There are six applicants and interviews will take place in two weeks.
- Elementary Special Education - There are currently special education teachers at each grade level and next year there will be two self-contained special education classrooms. One for grades 3-5 and one for Kindergarten through 2nd grade.
- Elementary School - There are currently two open positions for 2nd grade and one for 1st grade.

1% CSFT

Superintendent Darnell shared with the committee that he has been the guest speaker at several local organization's monthly meetings to provide information on the proposed 1% facilities tax that will be on the March 19 Illinois Primary Election.

Summer Project Budget

The list of summer projects is still being refined at this point. The major project is the new press box and the blacktop paving of the walkway to the press box and the paving of the parking lot by the new storage shed.

**A motion to adjourn the meeting** was made by board member Johnson and seconded by board member Whitehouse at 12:40 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.

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Board President Josh Johnson

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Secretary to the Board Lori H. Kristensen